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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

EXCISE

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DRAFTED BY EA/K:DAO'DONOHUE:CHG
APPROVED BY EA/K - MR O'DONOHUE
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [illegible] DATE 5/21/82
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, KS,

SUBJECT: EVANS-NOVAK COLUMN ON PRESIDENT PARK'S VIEWS
REF: SEOUL 4157

1. EVANS/NOVAK JUNE 12 COLUMN REPORTING DISCUSSION WITH PRESIDENT PARK GIVES PARK'S COMMENTS REGARDING ROK NUCLEAR CAPABILITY SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT TWISTTHAN DESCRIBED REFTEL.

2. TEXT OF COLUMN RELATING TO ROK NUCLEAR INTENTIONS IS AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: PRESIDENT PARK CHUNG HEE, VOWING TO FIGHT FOR THE LAST INCH OF LAND EVEN IF U.S. FORCES LEAVE KOREA, TOLD US SOUTH KOREA COULD AND WOULD DEVELOP ITS OWN NUCLEAR WEAPONS IF THE U.S. NUCLEAR UMBRELLA IS WITHDRAWN.

.....HE NEXT CONFIRMED FOR THE FIRST TIME THAT SOUTH KOREA,
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IF ABANDONED BY THE U.S., WOULD GO NUCLEAR. 'WE HAVE THE CAPABILITY,' THE PRESIDENT SAID, BUT ARE NOT DEVELOPING IT AND ARE HONORING THE NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY. THEN HE BLUNTLY ADDED: 'IF THE U.S. NUCLEAR

UMBRELLA WERE TO BE REMOVED, WE HAVE TO START DEVELOPING OUR NUCLEAR CAPABILITY TO SAVE OURSELVES. UNQUOTE

KISSINGER